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Freemasons, California



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# CONSTITUTION

OF THE

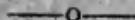
# M.·. W.·. GRAND LODGE

FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AND MASONIC  
JURISDICTION THEREUNTO BELONGING,

OR

*Free and Accepted Masons,*

IN UNION WITH THE NATIONAL GRAND LODGE OF  
THE UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA, AS  
REVISED AND ADOPTED SEPT. 19TH, A. L. 5867.



SAN FRANCISCO:  
FRANK EASTMAN, PRINTER, 509 CLAY STREET.

1867.

*The Bancroft Library*

*No. 5843.*

Freemasons California Grand Lodge

# CONSTITUTION

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# M. W. GRAND LODGE

FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AND MASONIC  
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**LIST OF LODGES, etc.** 1867



X

Hannibal Lodge No. 1, San Francisco—B. Fletcher, W.·.  
M.·.; A. F. Phillips, Secretary. Meets every Wednesday.

Philomathean Lodge No. 2, Sacramento—N. A. Christopher,  
W.·., M.·.; J. H. Hubbard, Secretary. Meets every Monday.

Victoria Lodge No. 3, San Francisco—D. W. Ruggles, W.·.,  
M.·.; J. B. Sanderson, Secretary. Meets every Monday.

Mount Moriah Lodge No. 4, Nevada, California—D. D.  
Carter, W.·. M.·.; L. H. Gardner, Secretary, Meets every  
Monday.

Laurel Lodge No. 5, Marysville—I. M. Wiley, W.·. M.·.;  
Jonathan R. Johnson, Secretary. Meets every Monday.

Landmark Lodge No. 6, Sonora—Martin Jackson, W.·. M.·.;  
Samuel Collet, Secretary. Meets every Monday.

Ashlar Lodge No. 7, Virginia City, Nev.—George Cottle,  
W.·. M.·.; James M. M. Moody, Secretary. Meets every  
Monday.

(

## GRAND OFFICERS, A. L. 5867.

M.: W.: J. M. WHITFIELD.....	<i>Grand Master.</i>
R.: W.: D. D. CARTER.....	<i>Deputy Grand Master.</i>
R.: W.: JAMES JOHNSON.....	<i>Senior Grand Warden.</i>
R.: W.: I. M. WILEY.....	<i>Junior Grand Warden.</i>
R.: W.: BARNEY FLETCHER.....	<i>Grand Treasurer.</i>
R.: W.: S. P. CLARKE.....	<i>Grand Secretary.</i>
Reverend J. J. MOORE.....	<i>Grand Chaplain.</i>
Reverend I. M. D. WARD.....	<i>Grand Orator.</i>
J. R. STARKEY.....	<i>Grand Marshal.</i>
ISAIAH C. DUNLAP.....	<i>Senior Grand Deacon.</i>
J. B. SANDERSON.....	<i>Junior Grand Deacon.</i>
JOHN ADAMS.....	<i>Grand Standard Bearer.</i>
JOHN GALE.....	<i>Grand Sword Bearer.</i>
J. M. FLOWERS.....	<i>Grand Bible Bearer.</i>
A. OSBORNE.....	<i>Grand Steward.</i>
E. COOPER.....	<i>Grand Steward.</i>
T. E. RANDOLPH.....	<i>Grand Pursuivant.</i>
L. H. BROOKS.....	<i>Grand Tyler.</i>

*Committee of Foreign Correspondence,*

J. A. BARBER, N. A. CHRISTOPHER, J. B. SANDERSON,  
S. P. CLARKE. J. R. JOHNSON.

## CHAPTER I.—OF THE GRAND LODGE.

### ARTICLE I.

#### TITLE, JURISDICTION, MEMBERSHIP, ETC.

SECTION 1. *Style and Title*—The style and title of this Grand Lodge shall be “The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge for the State of California, and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging, of Free and Accepted Masons.” In union with the National Grand Lodge of the United States of North America.

SEC. 2. *Extent of Jurisdiction*—The jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall extend over the State of California, and all the other States and Territories lying wholly or partially west of the Rocky Mountains, in which there is not a Grand Lodge in union with the National Grand Lodge. It shall have a seal (bearing such devices and inscriptions as have been, or may hereafter be, determined on), which shall be impressed upon all documents issued by its authority.

SEC. 3. *Of Membership*—The Grand Lodge shall be composed of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, and the past officers of the same rank; of the Grand Chaplain, Grand Orator, Grand Marshal, Senior Grand Deacon, Junior Grand Deacon, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Bible Bearer, two Grand Stewards, Grand Pursuivant, and Grand Tyler; of the Masters and Wardens of all chartered Lodges, and the regular Past Masters of all chartered Lodges under this jurisdiction, each of whom shall be entitled to one vote, and in all tie votes, except election, the Grand Master shall have, in addition, the casting vote. In addition to the individual votes

of members, each Subordinate Lodge shall be entitled to three votes, to be cast by its Master and Wardens. In case of the absence of one of them, the senior officer present shall cast two of the three votes, and if but one of them is present, he shall cast the three votes of the Lodge; and any brother acting as proxy for one or more Lodges, shall be entitled to cast the whole vote of each Lodge he represents.

SEC. 4. *Of Communications*—The Grand Lodge, so constituted, shall meet in San Francisco, in Grand Annual Communication, at such time between the fifteenth and twenty-first of June inclusive, of each year, as the Grand Master may, by public notice, appoint. Special Communications may be ordered by the Grand Master whenever, in his opinion, the welfare of the fraternity may require it. Every order for a special Communication shall designate the object thereof, so far as is proper to be written, and shall be issued to each Lodge and Grand officer at least fifteen days before the day named for meeting. The officers or representatives of at least three chartered Lodges shall be necessary in order to open any Communication of the Grand Lodge for the transaction of business, but upon occasions of ceremony only, the Grand Master, or his duly authorized representative, with a sufficient number of brethren to fill the offices, may, at any time, open the Grand Lodge and perform the ceremony for which it was convened.

SEC. 5. *Of its Powers and Authority*—The Grand Lodge is the supreme Masonic power and authority in this jurisdiction, possessing all the attributes of sovereignty—legislative, executive, and judicial, limited only by a strict adherence to the ancient landmarks of the Order, and the provisions of the Constitution of the National Grand Lodge.

SEC. 6. *Of Election*—The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary, shall be elected by ballot upon the third evening of each Annual Communication; shall be installed before its close; and shall hold their respective offices until their suc-

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cessors are elected and installed, and a majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to an election. All other Grand officers shall be appointed by the Grand Master, immediately after his installation, at each Annual Communication; shall be properly invested before the close thereof; and shall hold their respective offices during his will and pleasure. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in any elective office of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master shall have power to fill the same by appointment, which appointment shall be valid until the succeeding annual election and installation; and the officer so appointed shall be charged with all the duties and responsibilities of one regularly elected. Every member of this Grand Lodge shall be eligible to any office therein, and may be elected whether he be present or absent.

SEC. 7. *Of Voting*—All questions before the Grand Lodge, except election of officers, shall be decided by the usual show of hands. No Past Grand officer, or Past Master, voting in one of those capacities, shall vote in the other of them; but any such member may, as Master, Warden, or proxy of a Lodge, cast also the vote, or votes, to which such position entitles him.

SEC. 8. The following regular committees, to consist of three members each, shall be appointed by the Grand Master at the commencement of each Annual Communication, namely: A Committee on Credentials, a Committee on Grievances, a Committee on Finance, a Committee on Charters, By-Laws, and Returns of Subordinate Lodges. In addition to which the Grand Master elect shall appoint a standing committee of five on Foreign Correspondence. Special committees may also be appointed by the Grand Master whenever it may be deemed necessary by the Grand Lodge.

## ARTICLE II.

### OF REVENUE AND FEES.

SECTION 1. *Of Revenue*—The revenue of the Grand Lodge shall be derived from fees charged for dispensations, char-

ters, diplomas, dimits, and other documents issued under its authority; from uniform assessments levied upon the Lodges for members, affiliations and degrees; and from the funds and property of dissolved Lodges, which shall, in all cases, revert to the Grand Lodge.

**SEC. 2. *Of Fees***—The following shall be the fees charged as above: For a dispensation to open a new Lodge, including five dollars to the Grand Secretary, thirty dollars; for a charter or warrant of Constitution, including five dollars fee to the Grand Secretary, thirty dollars; for a dispensation to hold an election outside of the regular time, including two dollars fee to the Grand Secretary, five dollars; for a dispensation to ballot for a candidate for the degrees without the reference to a committee and laying over to the next stated communication, five dollars, including two dollars fee to the Grand Secretary; for a diploma, dimit, or certificate of membership, the brother furnishing the written or printed form, two dollars. In no case shall either of the foregoing documents be issued until the fees therefor shall be paid.

**SEC. 3. *Of Assessments***—The following assessments shall be paid as annual dues by each of the Lodges, whether chartered or under dispensation. For each degree it shall have conferred during the year, the sum of fifty cents. For each member it shall have received during the year, the sum of fifty cents. For each Master Mason borne upon its roll at the date of its annual return, the sum of fifty cents. The Grand Lodge may levy such additional assessments as it may think proper.

## CHAPTER II.—OF THE GRAND MASTER.

### ARTICLE I.

#### PREROGATIVES OF THE GRAND MASTER.

**SECTION 1.** To preside over the Grand Lodge, and over any Subordinate, when present.

SEC. 2. To call emergent Communications of the Grand Lodge, and of any Subordinate Lodge, as often as he may deem it expedient.

SEC. 3. To appoint all committees of the Grand Lodge, and to be *ex officio* the chairman thereof.

SEC. 4. To determine all questions of order in Grand Lodge, without appeal.

SEC. 5. To fill all vacancies in office in the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 6. To make Masons at sight—this power being, however, restricted to the conferring of the degrees according to the ritual, in the presence of a lawful number of Masons, and of all the necessary elements of a regular Lodge; the presence of the Grand Master supplying the warrant.

SEC. 7. To grant dispensations for the formation of new Lodges, or for the revival of decayed Lodges, and to revoke the same at pleasure.

SEC. 8. To arrest the charter of Lodges, and to suspend the functions of Masters of Lodges until the next session of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 9. To grant dispensations to Lodges for the election for officers when the first three offices for any cause shall be vacant, or when default shall be made in the election of officers on the day of the annual election.

SEC. 10. To exercise, temporarily, all the powers of the Grand Lodge during the *interim* between its sessions, and subject to its approval at its next session.

SEC. 11. To grant dispensations, on good cause shown, authorizing the installation of a Master elect, who is not a Past Warden.

SEC. 12. To grant dispensations shortening the time in which any act is required to be done.

SEC. 13. Exemption from trial during his term of office, and afterward for any official act while Grand Master.

SEC. 14. To perform any act necessary for the enforcement of his prerogatives or the orders of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 15. To give give the casting vote in case of a tie, in addition to his own vote.

## ARTICLE II.

### OF THE DUTIES OF THE GRAND MASTER.

SECTION 1. To discharge all the necessary functions of the Grand Lodge when that body is not in session.

SEC. 2. To exercise a general and careful supervision over the Craft, and see that the Constitution and regulations of the Grand Lodge are strictly maintained, supported and obeyed.

SEC. 3. To constitute all chartered Lodges, either in person or by a duly authorized representative, in accordance with the ancient usages and regulations.

SEC. 4. To present, at each Annual Communication, a written message, setting forth therein all his official acts during the year, exhibiting the general condition of Masonry throughout the jurisdiction, and recommending such legislation as he may deem necessary or expedient for the welfare of the Order.

## CHAPTER III.—OF THE GRAND OFFICERS.

### ARTICLE I.

#### ELECTIVE OFFICERS,

SECTION 1. The duty of the Deputy Grand Master is to assist the Grand Master in the discharge of his duties, and in case of his absence or inability, to preside in the Communications of the Grand Lodge, and perform all the duties of Grand Master.

SEC. 2. *Of the Grand Wardens*—In the absence or inability of both the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Wardens, according to seniority, succeed to the powers and duties of the Grand Mastership. In the absence or inability of them all, the Master of the oldest Lodge is to preside, in regular succession.

SEC. 3. *Of the Grand Treasurer*—The duty of the Grand Treasurer is to receive all moneys belonging to the Grand Lodge from the Grand Secretary, giving duplicate receipts therefor, and keeping, in proper books, a just account thereof. To take charge of all other property of the Grand Lodge, keeping an accurate account of the same. To pay all orders drawn upon the proper funds, when signed by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary. To attend the Grand Lodge at all its Communications, and the Grand Master, when required, with the books and all necessary papers appertaining to his office. To report at each Annual Communication a detailed account of his receipts and disbursements; present a statement of the existing condition of its property and finances, and at the end of his term pay over and transfer to his successor all funds or property of the Grand Lodge remaining in his possession.

SEC. 4. *Of the Grand Secretary*—The duty of the Grand Secretary is to record all the proceedings of the Grand Lodge which are proper to be written; to receive and keep on file all papers and documents addressed to or belonging to the Grand Lodge, and present such as may require its action at each Annual Communication. To keep the seal of the Grand Lodge, and affix the same, with his attestation, to all instruments emanating from that body. To collect all moneys due to the Grand Lodge, keep a correct account thereof, in proper books, and pay the same to the Grand Treasurer. To report at each Annual Communication a detailed account of all moneys received by him during the year, with a specific statement of the sources whence they were derived, presenting therewith the receipts of the Grand Treasurer therefor. To report all Lodges which shall be in arrears to the Grand Lodge, or which shall neglect or refuse to comply with any provision of its Constitution or regulation. To conduct the correspondence of the Grand Lodge, and submit copies thereof at each Annual Communication, for its inspection. To attend the Grand Lodge at all its

Communications, and the Grand Master when required, with the books and all necessary papers appertaining to his office. To transmit to each Lodge within the jurisdiction, once in every six months, a list of all rejections, suspensions, expulsions, and restorations, of which he shall have been notified by the several Lodges. To present at each Annual Communication an estimate of the probable income from the known sources of revenue during the year. To issue notices of any special Communication ordered by the Grand Master to each Lodge and Grand officer within the jurisdiction. To issue notices to each Lodge of the granting of a dispensation by the Grand Master for the formation of a new Lodge. To take charge of the jewe's, furniture, clothing and paraphernalia of the Grand Lodge during its vacations. To furnish every Grand officer elected or appointed with a certificate of such election or appointment. To report at each Annual Communication all unfinished business of the Grand Lodge, and to present such other matters to its notice as may properly come within his province, and to perform all such other duties appertaining to his office as the Grand Lodge may direct. He shall receive such compensation for his services as the Grand Lodge may direct. He may, with the approval of the Grand Master, appoint an Assistant Grand Secretary, for whose official acts he shall be responsible, and who shall be considered an appointed officer of the Grand Lodge, and shall receive such compensation for his services as it may direct.

## ARTICLE II.

### OF THE APPOINTED GRAND OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. It is the duty of the Grand Chaplain, during each Communication, to perform such services appertaining to his office, as may be required of him by the Grand Master.

SEC. 2. It is the duty of the Grand Orator, at each Annual Communication, to deliver an address to the Grand Lodge, upon matters appertaining to the Craft.

SEC. 3. It is the duty of the Grand Marshal to proclaim the Grand officers at their installation, and to make such other proclamations as the Grand Master may direct; to introduce the representatives of other Grand Lodges, and all visiting brethren of distinction; to conduct all processions of the Grand Lodge, under the direction of the Grand Master, and perform such other duties proper to his office as may be required.

SEC. 4. It is the duty of the Grand Deacons to assist the Grand Master and the Grand Wardens in such manner as the ancient usages of the Craft prescribe.

SEC. 5. It is the duty of the Grand Standard Bearer to bear the banner of the Grand Lodge in all processions, and at all public ceremonies.

SEC. 6. It is the duty of the Grand Sword Bearer to attend upon the Grand Master and bear the sword of the Grand Lodge in all processions, and at all public ceremonies.

SEC. 7. It is the duty of the Grand Bible Bearer to bear the Holy Scriptures in all processions, and at all public ceremonies.

SEC. 8. It is the duty of the Grand Stewards to superintend the preparations for all festive occasions directed by the Grand Lodge, and to provide suitable refreshments at its Communications; provided, that they shall not incur an expense of more than twenty-five dollars at one Communication, unless authorized to do so by a vote of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 9. It is the duty of the Grand Pursuivant to guard the inner door of the Grand Lodge, and communicate with the Grand Tyler without; to announce all applicants for admission, by their names and proper Masonic titles, and see that all who enter wear the jewel and clothing proper to their rank, and to allow none to withdraw who have not obtained permission to do so from the Grand Master.

SEC. 10. It is the duty of the Grand Tyler to guard the outer door of the Grand Lodge, and communicate with the Grand Pursuivant within; to report all applicants for ad-

mission to the Grand Pursuivant, and see that all who enter are duly authorized, and properly clothed; to make suitable preparations for the accommodation of the Grand Lodge at all its Communications, and see that the hall is kept in order; to take charge of and safely keep the jewels, furniture and clothing of the Grand Lodge during its communications; to carry all notices and summonses, and perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Grand Lodge, or Grand Master. He shall receive for his services such compensation as the Grand Lodge may direct.

## CHAPTER IV.—OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

### ARTICLE I.

#### ORGANIZATION.

**SECTION 1.** *How Formed*—A Lodge can only be formed by authority of a dispensation from the Grand Master, or of a charter from the Grand Lodge. At every Grand Communication the Grand Master shall make a report of all Lodges under dispensation; when the Grand Lodge may grant a charter, or continue the new Lodge under dispensation. If a charter is granted, the Grand Master shall constitute the new Lodge in person, or by proxy, as soon as convenient. A Lodge shall consist of a Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior and Junior Deacons, two Stewards, and Tyler, with as many members as it may find convenient.

**SEC. 2.** *Of the Powers and Duties of a Lodge*—The powers and privileges of a Lodge are such as are authorized by its dispensation or charter, by the Constitution and regulations of the Grand Lodge, and by the general usages and customs of ancient Freemasonry; and are, 1st. Executive, in the direction and performance of its work as prescribed by the Grand Lodge, under the control of the Master, and in all other matters in aid of the Master, who is the primary executive authority of the Lodge; 2d. Legislative, including all

matters of legislation relative to its internal concerns, which shall not be in violation of the general regulations and ancient usages of Masonry, or the Constitution and edicts of the Grand Lodge ; 3d. Judicial, embracing the exercise of discipline over its own members (except the Master), and all other Masons within its jurisdiction, and the settlement of controversies between them, subject always to revision by the Grand Lodge upon appeal.

SEC. 3. *Of Communications and Business*—Each Lodge shall have not less than one stated Communication in each calendar month, but may hold such other communications as it may determine, or the Master may direct; but no business of any kind, except collections, appropriations for relief, conferring of degrees, ceremonial observances, and the like, shall be done at any other than a stated meeting, unless by dispensation from the Grand Master.

SEC. 4. *Of Returns and By-Laws*—Each chartered Lodge shall transmit to the Grand Secretary a full and correct return of its transactions for the twelve months next preceding the eighth day of June in each year, within one week; and each Lodge under dispensation shall transmit a similar return from the day of its organization to the same date, and shall remit along with such return the amount of its dues to the Grand Lodge for the year. Each chartered Lodge shall have a seal, with the name and number of the Lodge, date of its charter, and any suitable devices engraved thereon, which shall be impressed upon all documents of every kind emanating from the Lodge, or from the Master or Secretary in their official capacity; and documents issued without the impress of the seal, shall be considered null and void. Each Lodge shall have all official communications from the Grand Master or Grand Secretary read in open Lodge at the stated Communication next following their receipt. Any Lodge preparing a code of By-Laws, shall transmit a copy to the Grand Secretary as soon as adopted; but no such By-Laws, or any subsequent amendments thereun-

to, shall be deemed valid until approved by the Grand Lodge, though they may be acted under until the next Annual Communication, if approved by the Grand Master. For the neglect or violation of any duty imposed upon a Lodge in this Constitution, its charter may be suspended or forfeited; and for the neglect or violation of any duty herein imposed upon a Secretary, his Lodge shall be held responsible.

## ARTICLE II.

### DISSOLUTION OF LODGES.

SECTION 1. A Lodge may be dissolved by the voluntary surrender of its charter, when such surrender is accepted by the Grand Lodge; or by the revocation of its charter by the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 2. The charter of a Lodge may be surrendered when, after timely notice and free discussion at two successive stated Communications, two-thirds of all the members shall vote in favor of such surrender; provided, that under no circumstances shall a charter be surrendered so long as seven members can be found who desire to retain it; and no act of surrender shall be considered final until it has been approved and accepted by the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 3. The charter of a Lodge may be forfeited by, 1st. Disobedience to any provision of the Constitution or regulations of the Grand Lodge; 2d. Disregard to the lawful authority of the Grand Master; 3d. Violation or neglect of the ancient and recognized usages of the Craft; 4th. Failure to meet during a period of twelve successive months; but no charter shall be forfeited unless charges against the Lodge shall be presented to and investigated in the Grand Lodge, of which charges the Lodge accused shall have due notice, though the charter may be arrested until the next Annual Communication, either by the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master, upon satisfactory reasons therefor being shown. The forfeiture or arrest of the charter of a Lodge involves

the suspension of all its members from the rights and privileges of Masonry, excepting those who may be specially exempted from such effect.

SEC. 4. The surrender or forfeiture of the charter of a Lodge, when declared by the Grand Lodge, shall be conclusive upon the Lodge and its members, and all its funds, jewels, furniture, dues and property, of every kind, shall be taken possession of by the Grand Secretary, and held in trust for, and subject to the disposition of, the Grand Lodge.

### ARTICLE III.

#### PROHIBITIONS.

SECTION 1. *Of Removals*—No Lodge shall remove its place of meetings from that named in its dispensation or charter, unless notice shall have been given, at a stated Communication, that a resolution for such removal will be offered at the next succeeding one, nor unless such resolution shall have been adopted by the votes of at least two-thirds of the members present at such succeeding Communication; nor shall such removal then take place until the action of the Lodge shall have been approved by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master.

SEC. 2. *Of Applicants*—All applications for initiation, and also for affiliation, must be signed by the applicants, and recommended by two regular Master Masons, and no Lodge shall ballot upon such application (except by dispensation from the Grand Master) until it shall have been referred to a committee, whose duty it shall be to make strict examination into the moral, mental and physical qualifications of the applicant, and report thereon at the next stated Communication. No application shall be withdrawn after reference to a committee, and it shall require a unanimous ballot to elect. But, if one black ball, only, appear in the ballot box, the Master, without declaring the result, may at once order a second ballot for the purpose of correcting a possible mistake. No dispensation shall be issued to

a Lodge to ballot for and confer the degrees upon a candidate without reference to a committee unless the application therefor be made by the unanimous vote of the Lodge, and of the special Communication to be holden under such dispensation, and the purpose thereof, the members of the Lodge shall have due notice.

SEC. 3. *Of Balloting for Candidates*—No Lodge, unless it be otherwise provided in its By-Laws, shall have more than one ballot for the three degrees; but, though an applicant be elected to receive them, if, at any time before his initiation, objection be made by any member, he shall not receive the degree until such objection be withdrawn; and if, after his initiation, but before being passed, or after passing, before being raised, objection to his advancement be made by any member, such objection shall be referred to a committee, with power to inquire into the cause thereof, who shall, at the next stated Communication, report thereon, and upon the reception of such report, if no cause for the objection has been assigned, or if the cause assigned be, in the opinion of two-thirds of the members present, not a valid and Masonic one, the Lodge may confer the degree in the same manner as if no objection had been made.

SEC. 4. *Of Proficiency*—No Lodge shall advance an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft to a higher degree until after a strict examination, in open Lodge, he shows himself proficient and well qualified in what he has already received; and no Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft shall be advanced to a higher degree in any other Lodge without the official consent of the Lodge in which he was entered or passed, if it be then in existence.

SEC. 5. *Of Fees for Degrees*—No Lodge within this jurisdiction shall confer the three degrees for a less fee than twenty-five dollars; and in every case the fee for each, or all of the degrees, as may be regulated by the Lodge, shall accompany the application. The fee for affiliation shall not be less than five dollars.

SEC. 6. *Of Conferring Degrees*—No Lodge shall confer degrees upon more than five candidates at any one Communication, nor shall confer more than one degree upon any one candidate at one Communiacion, nor shall confer either of the degrees upon more than one candidate at a time. No Lodge shall receive lectures from any person who is not duly authorized by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master. No Lodge shall receive an application for affiliation unless it is accompanied by a proper dimit from the Lodge of which the applicant was last a member, or a satisfactory explanation, in writing, of his inability to furnish such dimit. No Lodge shall hold Masonic communication with any Lodge which has been declared illegal by the Grand Lodge, or any person who has received degrees, or is a member of such a Lodge. No Lodge shall admit a visitor without inquiry or examination, nor if there be, in the opinion of the Master, a valid objection made to such admission by a member of the Lodge.

SEC. 7. *Of Suspension for Non-Payment of Dues*—No Lodge shall expel a member for the non-payment of his dues; but, in case any member shall refuse or neglect to pay his regular dues during a period of six months, he shall be notified by the Secretary that, unless at the next stated Communication, either his dues be paid, or sickness or inability to pay be shown as the cause of such refusal or neglect, he will be suspended from all the rights and privileges of Masonry. If neither of these things be done, he shall be so suspended, unless for special reasons shown, the Lodge may otherwise determine; but any Mason thus suspended, who shall, at any time, pay the arrearages due at the time of his suspension, and one half of the affiliation fee, he shall by that act be restored.

SEC. 8. *Of Delegates*—No Lodge, until chartered and duly constituted, shall be entitled to representation in the Grand Lodge, but a Lodge under dispenstion may send delegates there, who may be admitted to seats, but shall have no vote.

## ARTICLE IV.

## ELECTIONS AND OFFICERS.

**SECTION 1. *Of Elective Officers***—The Master, Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary, shall be elected annually by ballot, at the stated meeting next preceding the Anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, or at a special Communication appointed for that particular purpose at that stated Communication. Every Master Mason, who is a member in good standing, shall be entitled to vote at all elections; and every voter shall be eligible to any office in the Lodge.

**SEC. 2. *Of the Master***—The Master has power to congregate his Lodge whenever he may think proper, and discharge all its executive functions; to issue, or cause to be issued, all summonses and notices which may be required, and to perform all such other acts, by ancient usage proper to his office, as shall not be in contravention of any provision of the Constitution or regulations of the Grand Lodge. It is his duty to preside at all Communications of his Lodge; to confer all degrees in strict accordance with the ritual which has been, or may hereafter be, adopted by the Grand Lodge; to give, in full, the lecture appertaining to each degree, at the time it is conferred, in accordance with the ritual; to superintend the official acts of all the officers of his Lodge, and see that their respective duties are properly discharged; to carefully guard against any infraction by the members of his Lodge of its own By-Laws, of the Constitution or regulations of the Grand Lodge, or of the general regulations of Masonry. From the decisions of the Master there can be no appeal to the Lodge, but objections to such decisions may be laid before the Grand Master, and by him be dealt with as the case may require. In all cases of a tie vote, except elections, the Master, in addition to his proper vote, has the casting vote.

**SEC. 3. *Of the Wardens***—It is the duty of the Wardens to assist the Master in the performance of his duties, and to discharge all those duties which ancient usage has assigned

to their respective stations. In the absence of the Master, the Senior Warden (and in his absence, also, the Junior Warden) shall succeed to all the powers and duties of the Master.

SEC. 4. *Of the Treasurer*—It is the duty of the Treasurer to receive and safely keep all moneys and property of every kind which shall be placed in his hands by order of the Lodge; to disburse or transfer the same, or any part thereof, upon the order of the Master, duly attested by the Secretary; to keep a book, or books, wherein a correct account of his receipts and disbursements shall be exhibited; to present a statement of the finances of the Lodge whenever required, and to perform such other duties appertaining to his office as the By-Laws may require, or the Lodge may at any time direct.

SEC. 5. *Of the Secretary*—It is the duty of the Secretary to record all the proceedings of each Communication which are proper to be written, under the direction of the Master; to read the record of each Communication before the close of the Lodge for correction or approval, and at the opening of each stated Communication, read the record of the last stated, and all intervening Communications of every kind; to prepare and transmit a copy of the record, or any part thereof, to the Grand Lodge, when required; to collect and receive all money due to the Lodge, and pay it over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same; to keep the seal of the Lodge, and to impress the same, with his attestation, to all papers issued under its authority, or in obedience to the requirements of the Constitution or regulations of the Grand Lodge; to transmit to the Grand Secretary, immediately after each election and installation in the Lodge, a certificate thereof, with list of officers; to transmit to the Grand Secretary the annual return required by the Constitutions; to report to the Grand Secretary, immediately after their occurrence, all rejections, expulsions, suspensions and restorations; he shall keep a record book, in which he sha-

record all the transactions of the Lodge, proper to be written, after the same shall be approved by a vote of the Lodge, and signed by the Worshipful Master; a roll book, in which he shall record the names of all belonging to the Lodge, the dates of their initiation, passing, raising, or affiliation, the name, number and location of the Lodges of which those affiliated were last members; the age and occupation of each when received; and the dates of their withdrawal, expulsion, suspension, death or restoration; a register to be kept in the Tyler's room, in which all members, names shall be recorded; and all visitors shall record their names and residence, and the names, numbers and locations of their respective Lodges before entering the Lodge.

SEC. 6. *Of the Appointed Officers*—The Deacons, Stewards and Tyler shall perform such duties by the ancient usages of the Craft appertaining to their respective offices, as may be required by the By-Laws, or directed by the Master.

SEC. 7. *Of Virtual Past Masters*—No Warden of a Subordinate Lodge shall enter upon the duties of his office until he has taken the degree of Past Master; but such degree shall give him no rights of an actual P.M., being only given to qualify him to preside in the Master's absence.

## CHAPTER V.—OF INDIVIDUAL MASONS.

### ARTICLE I.

#### OF MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. *Acquisition of Membership*—Membership in a Subordinate Lodge may be acquired by having regularly received the degree of Master Mason therein, by having been duly elected for affiliation therewith, and by having been named as one of the petitioners for a dispensation for a new Lodge. A Mason may be a member of as many Lodges as see fit to receive him, provided he promptly pays his dues in each.

SEC. 2. *Dissolution of Membership*—Membership in a Subordinate Lodge can be terminated only by the dissolu-

tion of the Lodge; by voluntary withdrawal therefrom; or by death, suspension or expulsion. A member of a Lodge, in good standing, whose dues are paid, may withdraw therefrom at any time by giving notice of his intention so to do at a stated Communication; but no recommendatory certificate shall be given him, except by a vote of a majority of the members of the Lodge then present.

ARTICLE II,  
OF NON-AFFILIATES.

**SECTION 1.** It is the duty of every Master Mason to be a member of some Lodge; and any one who shall reside six months within the jurisdiction of a Lodge, and shall refuse or neglect to make application for membership, or to contribute an amount equal to at least one half its regular dues, while able to do so, may, at the option of such Lodge, be declared unworthy of Masonic consideration, and not entitled to receive any of the rights, privileges or charities of the Order.

**SEC. 2.** *Of Irregular and Clandestine Masons*—No Mason shall hold any Masonic intercourse with an expelled or suspended Mason; with an illegal Lodge, or any person who has received degrees therein, or is a member thereof; nor with any Mason not acknowledged as such by this Grand Lodge.

**SEC. 3.** *Penalties*—For any violation of the ancient landmarks of the Order, of the Constitution and regulations of the Grand Lodge, of the By-Laws of his Lodge, or of any portion of the Masonic or moral law, a member, or any other Mason within the jurisdiction of a Lodge, may be reprimanded, suspended or expelled, after trial and conviction.

ARTICLE III.

OF TRIALS, APPEALS, AND PENALTIES.

**SECTION 1.** *Of Charges against the Master*—Charges may be preferred against the Master of a Lodge for abuse of his

power, for violation of the Constitution or regulations of the Grand Lodge, or for unmasonic conduct of any kind, by any seven Master Masons in good standing; which charges shall be in writing, signed by all the seven, and shall be presented to the Grand Lodge, if in session, or to the Grand Master during the vacation. Upon the presentation of such charges, the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Master, as the case may be, may at once appoint and summon three disinterested Present or Past Masters of Lodges, to assemble as Commissioners to hear and decide the case; and shall then summon the accused to appear and answer thereunto at the time and place indicated in the summons, granting him such time (not less than ten, nor more than ninety days,) as under the circumstances may appear reasonable, and transmitting to him a copy of the charges. The Commissioners, or either of them, shall have power to summon witnesses at the request of either party, who, if Masons, shall testify on their obligations as such; if not, their depositions shall be taken in writing and sworn to before an officer legally authorized to administer oaths. The Commissioners may adjourn from time to time, at their own convenience, or for good cause shown by either party, provided that the period within which their duties shall be concluded shall not exceed ten days, unless, for sufficient reasons, the Grand Master shall grant them further time. The decision of a majority of the Commissioners shall be deemed the judgment of the whole, and shall be conclusive unless an appeal be taken at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. The penalties which may be inflicted by such Commissioners may be reprimand, deprivation of office, suspension or expulsion. They shall keep a record of their proceedings, and of their judgment, which they shall transmit to the Grand Secretary at the conclusion of the trial, and the judgment shall at once be carried into effect by order of the Grand Master.

SEC. 2. *Relative to Lodges and Members of Different Lodges*—When a controversy shall arise between Lodges, or

between a Lodge and a member or members of another Lodge, or between members of different Lodges, charges may be preferred by either party, if in good standing; which charges shall be in writing, and shall be presented to the Grand Lodge or Grand Master, as provided in Section 1 of this Article. Upon the presentation of such charges, three Commissioners may be appointed and summoned, as provided in Section 1 of this Article, which Commissioners shall be Masters or Wardens, and shall be selected from at least two Lodges not interested in the controversy, and most convenient to the parties; and the accused party shall be summoned, with such time to answer as provided in the preceding section. The Commissioners shall have power to proceed, and shall keep a record of their proceedings and judgment, as in the preceding Section; and the penalties which they may inflict, may be any known to Masonic usage. If the case be one not involving a violation of Masonic duty, it shall be dismissed with a reprimand to the party bringing the charges.

SEC. 3. *Relative to Masons Individually*—When any member of a Lodge (except its Master, or the Grand Master), or any Mason residing within its jurisdiction, shall be accused of unmasonic conduct, charges to that effect may be preferred by any Master Mason in good standing; which charges shall be in writing, signed by himself, and presented to the Master of the Lodge having jurisdiction thereof. Upon the presentation of such charges at a stated Communication, it shall be the duty of the Master to call a special Communication of his Lodge as soon as practicable, and there cause to be elected, by ballot, three of its members as Commissioners, to hear and determine upon the case at such time and place convenient to the parties as he shall indicate; and he shall also summon the accused and the accuser to be present, furnishing the accused with a copy of the charges against him; and the trial shall proceed in all respects, as to time, witnesses, et cetera, exactly as provided in the first Section of

this Article, except where the address of the accused is unknown; in which case the Master may order the trial to proceed at once upon the testimony, *ex parte*. The judgment of a majority of the Commissioners shall be taken as the decision of the whole; and when the trial is concluded the Secretary shall make a fair copy of the record and judgment under their supervision, which shall be signed by the chairman of such commission, and attested by the Secretary, shall be presented to the Master, who, at the next Communication of his Lodge, shall announce the result, and direct the Secretary to record the same as the judgment of the Lodge, and file the record for safe keeping among its archives. The penalties which may be inflicted, are reprimand, suspension and expulsion. If the sentence be reprimand, the Master shall summon the brother to appear at the next stated Communication, when it shall be carried into effect in open Lodge. If it be suspension or expulsion, it shall at once go into effect, and the Secretary shall immediately notify the Grand Secretary thereof, and it shall be final and conclusive, unless an appeal be taken to the Grand Lodge, or the Grand Lodge of its own accord shall see fit to modify or reverse such sentence. An appeal to the Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication may be taken by either party, upon notifying the Master to that effect within thirty days after his announcement of the result of trial; and in all cases of suspension or expulsion, the Master shall cause the Secretary to prepare a transcript of the record of trial, and immediately transmit it to the Grand Secretary, together with information of the appeal intended, if any there be. Lodges, in hearing complaints and punishing delinquents, are to adhere strictly to the old regulation, viz: "If a complaint be made against a brother, and he be found guilty, he shall stand to the determination of the Lodge; but if the accuser or complainant cannot support his charge, and it should appear to the Lodge to be groundless, being the result of hatred, malice, or some unwarrantable passion,

he shall incur such penalty as the accused would have done had he been duly convicted."

**SEC. 4. *Of Revision and Restorations***—All judgments from which an appeal may be taken shall be reviewed in the Grand Lodge, or before a committee thereof, during its sessions, upon the record sent up, and upon such other proper documents as may be submitted; and its decision shall be final and conclusive. A Lodge may, at any stated meeting, by the votes of two-thirds of the members present, annul any sentence of suspension pronounced by itself, and restore the Mason thus suspended to all his Masonic rights; provided that notice of a resolution for such restoration shall have been given at the stated meeting next preceding; and in case of such restoration, the Secretary shall at once notify the Grand Secretary thereof. The Grand Lodge may, at any Annual Communication, restore a Mason who has been suspended or expelled within its jurisdiction, to all the rights and privileges of Masonry; and it may, in addition, if it think proper, restore him to membership in the Lodge from which he was suspended or expelled. No suspension, expulsion, or restoration shall be published except by authority of the Grand Lodge.

#### ARTICLE IV.

##### OF AMENDMENTS.

**SECTION 1. *How Amendments may be Proposed***—Any proposed amendment to these Constitutions shall be presented on the first or second day of an Annual Communication, and shall, in every case, be referred to a special committee, with instructions to report thereon prior to the election of Grand officers. After the report of said committee, if two-thirds of the votes present be cast in favor of the proposed amendment, it shall be declared adopted, and from and after the close of that Communication, shall become a part of the Constitution. No vote upon a proposed amendment shall be taken after the election of Grand officers.

















